### Rebecca Neville

To: Kevin Ivers

Subject: RE: STATEMENT: Mongolian Democratic Party Announces Boycott of Parliament in

Protest Over Illegal Changes to Election Law

From: Kevin Ivers

Sent: Wednesday, April 21, 2021

Subject: STATEMENT: Mongolian Democratic Party Announces Boycott of Parliament in Protest Over Illegal Changes to

**Election Law** 

Good afternoon - below is a statement by Mongolian President Kh. Battulga announcing that the Democratic Party of Mongolia will boycott tomorrow's moves by the Mongolian People's Party (MPP) to illegally change the election laws for the June 9 presidential election. Please contact me at this email, or at +1 (202) 777-1577 for further information on this and other developments related to the situation in Mongolia and I will be happy to assist you.

Best, Kevin Ivers Vice President, DCI Group

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# Mongolian Democratic Party Announces Boycott of Parliament in Protest Over Illegal Changes to Election Law

Effort to subvert rule of law and democracy will destabilize Mongolia and the region and threaten future of Mongolian people

**Ulaanbaatar, April 21, 2021** – In advance of Thursday's presumed debate in the Mongolian People's Party-controlled Parliament, which will see the Mongolian Law on the Election of the President of Mongolia changed in violation to the clause that the Law cannot be changed less than a year before the presidential election date, the Democratic Party of Mongolia announces it will boycott the debate in protest over what it views as illegal and illegitimate changes to the election law.

On Tuesday, April 20, the Parliament's MPP-dominated Standing Committee on Legal Affairs voted to approve changes to the Law on Election of President. This decision, if adopted by the MPP-controlled Parliament, will lead to a subversion of democracy and a presidential election that is no longer free and fair. Moreover, it will lead to an illegitimate one-party rule regime that will destabilize the region and threaten the future of Mongolia and its people.

President Battulga Khaltmaa made the following statement:

"The MPPs actions threaten the peace, stability and democracy in Mongolia. Their actions will take Mongolia back to a one-party rule regime without free and fair elections and put a tragic end to the democratic revolution of 1990. I fully support the Democratic Party's boycott, and encourage all friends of Mongolian democracy to denounce this sham, rigged process."

## MPP Forms "Military Union"

Former Prime Minister, and current MPP Chairman, Khurelsukh Ukhnaa, has created a parallel military structure alongside the Party called the "Mongolian Military Union," and has arranged for the organization to have a branch at each Military Staff of local administrations. It led to growing concerns that the Party is at risk of and preparing to execute military actions.

Bold Luvsanvandan, former Minister of Defense and current Advisor to the President on National Security, made the following statement:

"MPP's parallel militarized structure headed by MPP Chairman Khurelsukh Ukhnaa is a blatant violation of Mongolia's Constitution. The military union should be immediately disbanded and banned. Not only will it undermine the civilian oversight over the Mongolian military, but will lead to the creation of quasi-fascist regime."

## Leader of Mongolia's Anti-Democratic Forces

The effort to rig the June 9 elections is led by former Prime Minister Batbold Sukhbaatar of the MPP, which ruled Mongolia under a Communist dictatorship until the 1990 democratic revolution and is now attempting to seize power, once again, and reinstall one-party rule. This stealth attack on the country's institutions follows active efforts by the MPP to subvert the Constitutional Court, deter the functioning of the National Security Council, rubber-stamp the rigging of the June 9 elections and protect Batbold from prosecution for corruption. Batbold, was recently charged with receiving hundreds of millions of dollars from kickbacks and fraudulent and illegal transactions in deals involving the nation's two largest mines. The investigation was launched by the Metropolitan Prosecutor's Office and Independent Authority Against Corruption of Mongolia that now spans in five jurisdictions from the U.K., Hong Kong, BVI, Singapore and the United States.

Uyanga Gantumur, former Member of Parliament and a member of the Democratic Party, made the following statement:

"President Battulga has sworn to defend the Constitution, sovereignty and democracy of Mongolia. The decision to dissolve the MPP was not easy, but necessary, to protect the country from the anti-democratic forces organized by former Prime Minister Batbold Sukhbaatar and their foreign collaborators. President Battulga urges public officers to honor the Constitution and comply with the laws when executing their jobs, and pledged to defend free and fair elections in the face of MPP actions to prevent them."

#### President Battulga and the Democratic Party

Battulga Khaltmaa became the fifth President of Mongolia on July 10, 2017. Before this, President Battulga served for almost two decades as a Member of Parliament in the State Great Khural and held cabinet positions as the Minister of Roads, Transportation, Construction and Urban Development and later as the Minister of Industry and Agriculture. He was one of the leaders of the Democratic Union Coalition, which later became the foundation of the modern day Democratic Party of Mongolia. The Democratic Union Coalition was instrumental in ushering a peaceful democratic transition to a multi-party democratic system in Mongolia after the fall of the Soviet Union in 1990.

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These materials are distributed by DCI Group on behalf of the Democratic Party of Mongolia. Additional information is on file with the U.S. Department of Justice, Washington, D.C.